

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Cape Centre held at SAAO on Wed 12/3/80.

Present were 28 members and 12 visitors.

Apologies for absence from Parsons, G Bekker and Dr Cousins.

Then followed an interesting talk by Mr Roberts. His subject was "Man made satellites."

Of the ± 12000 objects sent into orbit ± 6000 have come down eg Skylab. They are mainly U.S. and U.S.S.R. efforts.

These are for example communication satellites eg the earlier model "Telstar" and more recent geosynchronised satellites eg the Intelsat system with a frequency spectrum of 500 megahertz for telephone and T.V. communications all round the globe. This Intelsat system is from 3.7 - 4.2 GHz and we are running out of space for new communication frequencies.

There are also satellites for military purposes and some amateurs. Satellites one of which is launched every 2 or 3 years. There are also weather satellites with a resolution of 2 or 3 kilometers.

Mr Roberts then showed a few slides to illustrate his talk.

Signed as correct
A. Smith. G. J. Den